

**MONTANA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
UTILITY DIVISION
AGENDA NO. 99-4-12**

Date Prepared: April 8, 1999

For Work Week Commencing: April 12, 1999

Business Meeting: April 12, 1999, 10:00 a.m.

General Introduction This agenda is the Commission's Utility Division agenda for the work week designated. In the later part of each week (generally, Thursday by 2:00 p.m.) prior to the work week to which an agenda pertains, the agenda is posted on the public information bulletin board at the Commission offices, deposited in the mail directed to all persons who have properly requested notice by mail, emailed to all persons who have properly requested notice by email, and posted to the Public Service Commission's worldwide web site located at <http://www.psc.state.mt.us>.

Place of Meetings All meetings are held at the Commission offices, 1701 Prospect Avenue, Helena, Montana, unless otherwise noted.

Inquiries General inquiries concerning this Utility Division agenda and subscribing to notice by mail may be made to Dennis Crawford at (406) 444-6182 or Dan Elliott at (406) 444-6187. They may refer inquiries to another person within the agency.

Accommodation for Persons with Disabilities Anyone needing an accommodation for physical, hearing, or sight impairment in order to attend a scheduled meeting should contact the Commission secretary at (406) 444-6199 sufficiently prior to the meeting to allow accommodations to be made.

Work Sessions All items identified below are for Commission discussion or action on the day designated (Dan).

1. D99.4.82 – Montana Power Company – MPC's Request for PUHCA determination of EWG status – Action on issuing notice of request and opportunity for comment (4/13/99)
2. D99.2.53 – Shelby Gas Association – Discuss intervention request, other matters as necessary (4/13/99)
3. D98.9.213 – Great Falls Gas – GFG Tracker – Prehearing discussion, as needed, if needed (4/13/99)
4. D97.7.116 – PSC v. USWC – Discuss USWC 3/25/99 report on measured service takes, direction/action as necessary (4/13/99)
5. D99.3.49 – PSC Policy Investigation of LEC Flexible Pricing – Commission direction for reply comments (4/13/99)

6. D98.10.226 – Lincoln Telephone Company's Emergency Motion to Amend 1+ Procedural Schedule and Motion of Partial Waivers – To act on Lincoln's motion to amend its intraLATA dialing parity implementation schedule (4/13/99)
7. FCC Audit Report of the Continuing Property Records of USWC – Inform the Commission of the FCC's Audit (4/13/99)
8. D98.6.127 – Havre Pipeline Company – Discuss Black Hills Exploration response to Havre's request for additional time, action on objections to data requests from Havre, and general scheduling issued (4/13/99)

Legislative Meeting – Will be held at 9:30 am on the day of the Business Meeting.

Weekly Scheduling Meeting – Will be held at 9:45 a.m. on the day of the Business Meeting

Action Items All items identified below are for action at the Commission business meeting.

1. ENERGY WEST INC. N99.3.64 (Wendy)

On March 18, 1999, Energy West Montana (Energy West), filed an application to correct tariff language in their Special Service and Negotiated Contract tariffs. These changes stem from mistakes on the proposed tariffs in D98.3.68, Energy West's application to offer open access on its system. Two changes are proposed. First, Energy West proposes to correct the definition of, and the tariffed rate for, damaged meters. Energy West maintains that they did not intend to change the rate or language in this tariff and would like to reinstate the previous rate and definition. Second, Energy West proposes to remove obsolete language in their Negotiated Contract service. The language refers to the marginal cost of gas; however, the NCS tariff is now used for transportation customers who purchase their own gas directly from suppliers.

2. SPRINT COMMUNICATIONS COMPANY – Docket N99.3.75 (Bonnie)

On March 26, 1999, Sprint filed price list changes to change the Cancellation for Cause text; Add the Sprint Sense AnyTime FONCAR text previously omitted; grandfather optional FONCARD rate with MRC Waiver and Short Calls Waiver; Introduce Sprint PCS/Sprint Long Distance Option; and Change the per minute usage rates applicable to in-state calls made when Sprint participates in an agreement with a LEC to provide FONCARD Service offered in conjunction with a LEC Calling Card

Notice Items All items identified below are noticed for public participation purposes. Unless otherwise stated in the text of the notice, the items will be action items on the next following agenda or a subsequent agenda and participation may be had by submitting written comments to the Public Service Commission, 1701 Prospect Avenue, P.O. Box 202601, Helena, Montana, 59620-2601, within 5 calendar days following publication of this agenda.

1. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS N99.4.84 (Wendy)

On April 1, 1999, U S West Communications, Inc. filed Tariff Transmittal 99-20, "Modifications to Digital Switched Services (DSS), Uniform Access Solutions (UAS), and Primary Rate Service (PRS) Tariff." The tariff establishes a rate stability plan (RSP) for discounts of 50% for three-year contracts and 100% for five year contracts off of the non-recurring rates for purchase of Advanced DSS facilities. The tariff also allows for UAS to be priced on an individual case basis when the system includes more than ten network connections, and establishes a RSP for purchase of UAS Network Connections. Finally, the tariff establishes an InOnly Network Connection option on a monthly or RSP basis for UAS service.

2. U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS N99.4.88 (Wendy)

On April 5, 1999, U S West Communications, Inc. filed Tariff Transmittal 99-22, "Modified Terms and Conditions for Grandfathered Centrex Plus." The tariff makes several changes to the grandfathered service including introducing or increasing fees, modifying terms and conditions, adding USOCs, and enhancing the Centrex Management System.

3. CENTRAL MT COMMUNICATIONS, INC. – Docket N99.4.87(Nina)

On April 5, 1999, Central Montana Communications, Inc. filed the following tariff revisions: Section 4 - Local Network Access Line Service, the Monthly Recurring Charge for Business Trunk Hunt will be reduced from \$8.00 to \$7.00; and Section 17 – Directory Listings, the Monthly Recurring Rates, for Residential Additional Listings, Residential/Business Foreign Listings, Non-Listed Number, Non-Published Number, and Residential/Business Reserved Number, will also be reduced.

4. U S WEST COMMUNICATION – Docket N99.4.85 (Scott)

On April 1, 1999 U S WEST filed Tariff Transmittal 99-21 to remove the temporary Nonrecurring Change charge and reinstate the original tariffed charge of \$30.10. This tariff filing removes the temporary non-recurring change charge rate language resulting from the PAL portion of the order in Docket D96.12.220, Order No. 5965d which established a \$5.00 change charge effective from January 20, 1999 through March 20, 1999 for existing PAL customers to change between types of PAL service- from measured to flat.

5. WORLDCOM TECHNOLOGIES, INC. – Docket N99.4.90 (Tina)

On April 6, 1999, WorldCom Technologies filed Transmittal Letter No. 99-01 to set apart Business and Residential Directory Assistance usage charges and increase the usage charge for Business Directory Assistance from \$.72 to \$1.40.

Information Items All items identified below are for information only.

Tentative Action Items for Agenda 99-4-19

Docket N99.4.87 Central Mt Communications (Nina)

Docket N99.4.85 USWC (Scott)

Docket N99.4.90 WorldCom (Tina)

New Filings Received in Past Week

D99.4.82 MPC – MPC & PPL LLC's Request for Determination Under section 32 of the Public Utility Holding Co act

D99.4.83 PSC – Gordon-Prill-Drapes master meter rule waiver

N99.4.84 USWC – Tariff 99-20 Modifications to DDS, UAS, & PRS tariffs

N99.4.85 USWC – Tariff 99-21 Public Access Line Service – remove temp nonrecurring change charge rate reduction

D99.4.86 PSC – Fairmont investigation for compliance

N99.4.87 Central Mt Communications – Tariff changes – local network access service and directory listings

N99.4.88 USWC – Tariff 99-22 Modified terms and conditions for grandfathered centrex plus

D99.4.89 Customer Carpets – Complaint against USWC

N99.4.90 WorldCom – Tariff price changes